IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A method for adjusting automatic transmission ratios by a driver, comprising:

controlling the automatic transmission ratios according to operating curves in an automatic mode;

while a gearshift lever of a transmission is maintained in a position corresponding to the automatic mode, imposing a change of ratio requested by the driver on the transmission, if first conditions are satisfied, wherein the change of ratio requested by the driver is manually imposed in the automatic mode;

maintaining the ratio requested by the driver until second conditions for returning to [[an]] the controlling the automatic transmission ratios according to the operating curves in the automatic mode are satisfied; and

automatically restoring the controlling in the automatic mode when the second conditions are satisfied.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the driver can request an up-shift or a down-shift by use of separate action devices.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first conditions comprise conditions for imposing an up-shift on the transmission when requested by the driver include:

primary speed > threshold, and

lever position = Drive, and

kick down = 0, and

required ratio < maximum ratio allowed by the transmission.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first conditions comprise conditions for imposing a down-shift on the transmission when requested by the driver include:

primary speed < threshold, and

lever position = Drive, and

kick down = 0, and

required ratio > minimum ratio allowed by the transmission.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the automatic mode is restored following [[an]] the imposed up-shift when:

a down-shift request is made by the driver, or

primary speed < threshold, or

engine speed > threshold, or

lever position ≠ Drive, or

kick down = 1, or

timer timed out, or

ratio required by transmission = adjusted ratio.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the automatic mode is restored following [[an]] the imposed down-shift when:

an up-shift request is made by the driver, or

primary speed < threshold, or

engine speed > threshold, or

lever position ≠ Drive, or

kick down = 1, or

timer timed out, or

ratio required by transmission = adjusted ratio.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 11, wherein information taken into account to perform an adjustment includes:

ratio required by the transmission, and

up- and down-shift requests by the driver, and

engine load, and

primary speed, and

engine speed, and

kick down information, and

gearshift lever position information.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 11, wherein adjustments take priority over complementary functions, or ratio blocking on lifting [[the]] a foot of the driver, or down-shifting on braking.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): An adjustment device for ~~implementing a method as claimed claim 12~~ adjusting automatic transmission ratios, comprising:

a plurality of blocks configured to control the automatic transmission ratios according to operating curves in an automatic mode, manually impose a change of ratio requested by a

driver on a transmission while a gearshift lever of the transmission is maintained in a position corresponding to the automatic mode if first conditions are satisfied, maintain the ratio requested by the driver until second conditions for returning to the control of the automatic transmission ratios according to the operating curves in the automatic mode are satisfied, and automatically restore the control in the automatic mode when the second conditions are satisfied; and

separate action devices with which the driver can request an up-shift or a down-shift, and the up-shift or the down-shift requested by the driver is imposed in the automatic mode,

wherein the separate action devices include arms disposed near to [[the]] a steering wheel.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The adjustment device for ~~implementing a method as claimed claim 12~~ adjusting automatic transmission ratios, comprising:

a plurality of blocks configured to control the automatic transmission ratios according to operating curves in an automatic mode, manually impose a change of ratio requested by a driver on a transmission while a gearshift lever of the transmission is maintained in a position corresponding to the automatic mode if first conditions are satisfied, maintain the ratio requested by the driver until second conditions for returning to the control of the automatic transmission ratios according to the operating curves in the automatic mode are satisfied, and automatically restore the control in the automatic mode when the second conditions are satisfied; and

separate action devices with which the driver can request an up-shift or a down-shift, and the up-shift or the down-shift requested by the driver is imposed in the automatic mode,

wherein the separate action devices ~~includes~~ include arms disposed on [[the]] a steering wheel.

Claim 21 (New): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first conditions do not include changing the position of the gearshift lever to correspond to a manual mode.

Claim 22 (New): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the gearshift lever is configured to be switched between a park position, a reverse position, a neutral position, and a drive position, and the transmission is in the automatic mode when the gearshift lever is switched to the drive position.

Claim 23 (New): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the ratio requested by the driver is different from a required-ratio set-point determined from the operating curves for the transmission in the automatic mode.

Claim 24 (New): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the position of the gearshift lever does not have to be changed for the automatic mode to be restored following the imposed up-shift.

Claim 25 (New): The adjustment method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the position of the gearshift lever does not have to be changed for the automatic mode to be restored following the imposed down-shift.

Claim 26 (New): The adjustment device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the first conditions do not include changing the position of the gearshift lever to correspond to a manual mode.

Claim 27 (New): The adjustment device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the ratio requested by the driver is different from a required-ratio set-point determined from the operating curves for the transmission in the automatic mode.

Claim 28 (New): The adjustment device as claimed in claim 20, wherein the first conditions do not include changing the position of the gearshift lever to correspond to a manual mode.

Claim 29 (New): The adjustment device as claimed in claim 20, wherein the ratio requested by the driver is different from a required-ratio set-point determined from the operating curves for the transmission in the automatic mode.